

Husband's Name: **JÁNOS SCHMID (JOHN SMITH)**

Born: 15 July 1855 Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye, Hungary
 Married: 15 October 1877 Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye, Hungary
 Died: 15 May 1905 Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye, Hungary
 Buried: *Széphalomi temető*, Hosszú-Láz utca 46

Father: BÁLINT SCHMID (25 June 1812 – 14 April 1856)
 Mother: BORBÁLA MARTZI (21 May 1810 – 10 September 1876)

Wife's Name: **ANNA UNTENER**

Born: 15 November 1856 Nagy-Toronya, Zemplén Megye, Hungary
 Died: 30 September 1896 Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye, Hungary
 Buried: *Széphalomi temető*, Hosszú-Láz utca 46
 Father: JÁNOS UNTENER (1794-2 April 1856)
 Mother: ANNA TAJEM (1810-?)

Name:	Date of birth:	Death:	Place of birth:
1) MÁRIA SCHMID	3 February 1879	1882	Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén
2) JÓSZEF JÁNOS SCHMID	6 January 1883		Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén
3) MÁRIA SCHMID	7 March 1885	1886	Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén
4) MÁRIA SCHMID	10 October 1887	1887	Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén
5) ANNA SCHMID	9 March 1889	1889	Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén
6) JÁNOS SCHMID, II	6 June 1890		Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén
7) ANNA SCHMID	4 October 1892		Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén ?

The spelling of the surname as "*SCHMID*" has been chosen as this is the most common form of spelling encountered in the records reviewed. Other spellings include "*SMID*" and "*SCHMIDT*." Since the end of the First World War the once-separate counties of Borsod, Abauj and Zemplén have been joined but only a small part of the original county remains in Hungary, most of it is in Slovakia.



They were married by KÁPLÁN JÁNOS SANDOR or SANDZ at the *Templomnak Jézus Szíve (Church of Jesus' Heart)* in neighboring Kis-Banyácska; the ceremony was witnessed by JAKAB KAJEL and JÓSZEF UNTENER. They lived in the small village of Hosszú-Láz, 3 miles north of Sátoraljaújhely their entire lives. JÁNOS' occupation is noted as a *public servant* in records prior to 1885 and as a farmer in most of the records of later dates.

Their first child MÁRIA was baptized 6 February 1879 by KÁPLÁN JÁNOS SANDOR, with sponsors being MIHÁLY KOMENDAS and ERZSÉBET PETERCSAK. At this time JÁNOS is listed as a *gazda* or farmer. Their first daughter MÁRIA lived just over three years, dying on 22 February 1882 of typhus; she

was buried in *Hosszú-Láz temető* that same day. Their second daughter, another MÁRIA, was baptized the day she was born with Godparents being MIHÁLY HUSZOVSKY and ERZSÉBET PETERCSAK. A new online index to Hungarian Roman Catholic Baptismal Registers has become available.¹ In this resource, a daughter named MARIA is listed as being born on 2 October 1884 and baptized shortly thereafter which is indicative of the short comings of this resource – it is not possible to give birth on the date given as it was followed by another birth 5 months later! Their second daughter to be named MÁRIA was born on 7 March 1885 and lived only a year and a half, dying on 4 September 1886 of smallpox; she was buried the following day in the same cemetery. MÁRIA #3, their third daughter, lived only one day dying of *weakness*. She was baptized the day she was born by KÁPLÁN MIHÁLY JÓSEF who officiated at the funeral mass the following day. Her Godparents were MIHÁLY HUSZOVSKY and ERZSÉBET PETERCSAK. Perhaps hoping to change their luck with daughters, they changed names, the fourth was named ANNA. She had the same priest and the same Godparents as MARIA #2 and #3. But ANNA lived only three weeks, dying on 28 March 1889. She was buried two days later with the same priest officiating. All the children that died young were buried in *Hosszú-Láz temető*. In 1890, their 6th child, a son named JÁNOS was born; he would be the 2nd of their children to live into old age. A fifth daughter, a second ANNA, was born in 1892. The microfilm of the baptismal register entry has the father's name and the mother's given name inadvertently blocked out however the event is confirmed through other records.² The maiden name of the mother was UNTENER. The Godparents were MIHÁLY HUSZOVSKY and ERZSÉBET PETERCSAK, the same as for some of JÁNOS and ANNA's other children. It is not known how long she lived.

ANNA died in 1896 and was buried in *Hosszú-Láz temető*, now called *Széphalomi temető*. Her death certificate gives her age as 39 years, which would place her year of birth in 1856/7. Her mother is listed as ANNA TAEM.

JÁNOS remarried five months later; on 21 February 1897 he married MÁRIA NAGYICZKI. MÁRIA was born 10 September 1873 in Kis-Toronya, a small town northeast of Hosszú-Láz; she belonged to the Greek Catholic Church. Her parents were MIKLÓS NAGYICZKI and MÁRIA GOMBOS. They were married by PÉTER CSEHY. Witnesses were ANDREJ GOMBOS and JÁNOS BOGDA, both of Kis-Toronya.³ They lived in Hosszú-Láz until 1905 where they had two of their own children:

Issue:	Date of birth:	Place of birth:
8) ERZSÉBET SCHMID	28 August 1897	Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén
9) BÁLINT SCHMID	16 December 1898	Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén

The birth record extract of ERZSÉBET SCHMID from the local branch of the State Archives gives her place of birth as Sátoraljaújhely.

JÁNOS died in 1905, BÁLINT's future wife recalls his description as *when I was in grade school*.⁴ Shortly after his death, MÁRIA returned to Kis-Toronya with BÁLINT and ERZSÉBET to live with her family. The house she lived in is still there and continues to be occupied or maintained by NAGYICZKI family members.

MÁRIA is thought to have died around 1963. She was buried in *Széphalomi temető* and it is believed that the old *Hosszú-Láz temető* is the cemetery but there is a second *Széphalomi temető* just a short distance away which had previously been named *Kis-Banyácska temető* after its town; both villages were merged in 1940 to form Széphalom and both village cemeteries,

rather oddly, were given the villages new name.

Kis-Toronya is a small town whose name means Small Tower (in opposition to nearby Nagy-Toronya, meaning Great Tower, and now named Vel'ke-Trňa). In the 19th century the village became the property of the noble SZÉCHY family. It is a few miles northeast of Hosszú-Láz on the east side of the Ronyva Creek. That creek became the border between Hungary and the Slovakia after the First World War. Kis-Toronya has since been renamed Malá-Trňa (which means the same thing, just in the Slovak language) and is in the *Trebišov okres* (district) of the *Košický kraj* (region).

Issue:

- 2) **JÓSZEF JÁNOS SCHMID**: born 6 January 1883; baptized in the Roman Catholic religion on 8 January 1883 by Associate Pastor STIPULA ANTAL; JÓSZEF'S Godparents



were MIHÁLY KOMMENDES and ERZSÉBET PETERCSAK, wife of JÁNOS UNTENER.⁵ In 1940 he reported having completed just four years of schooling.⁶

The 18 year old JÓSZEF traveled over 650 miles to board a ship in Bremen, Germany. Bremerhaven, some thirty miles distant, is the actual port city for transatlantic voyages from Bremen. JÓSZEF was probably familiar

with the advertisement that is reproduced below. He boarded the *S.S. Barbarossa* on 15 June 1901 and arrived at Ellis Island, New York on 26 June 1901. The *Barbarossa* was just 5 years old and the New York harbor terminal for Norddeutscher Lloyd were at piers in Hoboken, New Jersey. These had only just been rebuilt after the devastating fire in June 1900 which caused over 300 deaths and set fire to 5 of the lines vessels. His last residence is given as Hosszú-Láz and native tongue as *Magyar*; we know it as Hungarian. He paid for his own

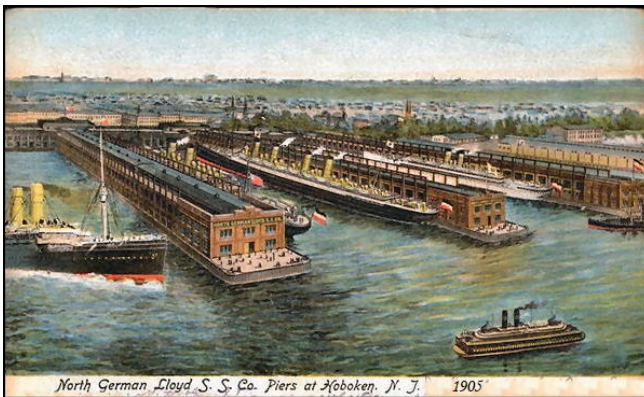
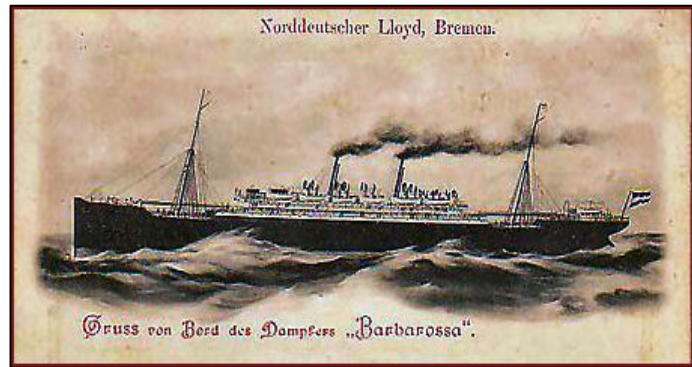


passage and this was his first time to the United States. He declared \$12.00 when he arrived. His listed his destination as Forest City, Pennsylvania where he was to meet his *uncle*, JÓSZEF MARCZI. As there was no *UNCLE JÓSZEF MARCZI* strictly speaking, he could be referring to a distant cousin that was a descendant of KRISZTIÁN and EVA SCHMID through their daughter MARGITA

who married JÓSZEF MARCZI and had a large family. Perusal of the 1900 US Census returns of Forest City reveal no one with that name though a large part of those returns are illegible. Likewise, the 1910 census returns sheds no light on the mysterious JÓSZEF MARCZI. He could have also been advised to have such a reply ready when asked that question.

JÓSZEF had a traveling companion by the name of JÓSZEF CSAJKOVSAKI who was also going to Forest City. CSAJKOVSAKI was from Bereczki, Hungary and was going to Forest City where his brother-in-law PAUL VORCZKY lived.⁷

The *S.S. Barbarossa* was launched in 1896, one of the first of the new *Barbarossa-class* vessels that accommodated a large amount of cargo and an impressive number of passengers that were separate from the cargo areas, creating a much quieter ride. The cabins were located on a three-deck superstructure amidships. Built by *Blohm & Voss* of Hamburg for *Norddeutscher Lloyd Line* (North German Lloyd Line), it measured 526' by 60'. The ship was seized by the US during the First World War and renamed the *S.S. Mercury*.



County, New Jersey before moving in with their son JOHN on his farm in Branchburg Township, Somerset County before 1940. The exact relationship has yet to be determined but the DUDIS family can be found in records of

Hosszú-Láz and Kis-Toronya. Census records give both Poland and Austria as her place of birth.⁸ She was married to STANLEY ZAWATSKI (b.1867-ca1945). *Nenje* had six children: two who died young; two sons, JOHN, (b.1899, Neshanic; d.20 May 1982) married to SOPHIE LUPINSKI (b.1904), and JOSEPH (b.1890, Elizabeth, NJ; d.15 August 1976) who was a deaf-mute, neither son had children; and two daughters, BARBARA (b.1902) and HELEN. BARBARA married JOHN STALA (b.1909; d.29 April 1986) in 1930, and was living with her in-laws ALBERT and KATIE STALA on their farm in Branchburg Township, Somerset County which was near the farm of her brother JOHN. STANLEY and MARY ZAWATSKI are interred

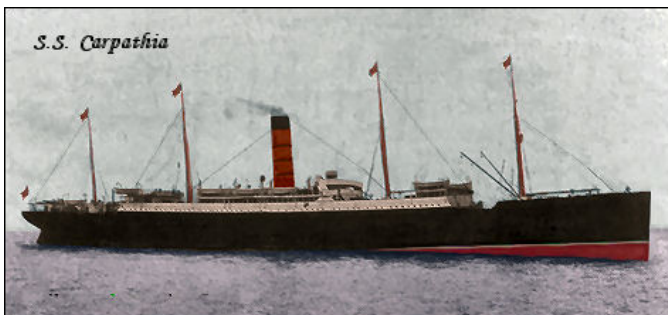
JOSEPH JOHN SMITH visited with his *Nenje* MARY DUDIS ZAWATSKI (1869-1966), translated as Aunt, *nenje* is also a term of affection that does not necessarily imply a blood relation. They lived in Neshanic Station, Hillsborough Township, Somerset



with their sons and son-in-law JOHN STALA in *Sacred Heart Cemetery*, section 13, plot 4, Hillsborough, NJ.

JOSEPH moved to Main Street, Forest City, Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania to work in the northern anthracite coal mines. The 30+ year old lumber town of Pentecost had given way to the coal-driven town of Forest City by 1885 and demands for miners were flowing to Eastern Europe within five years. From just 50 people in 1865 to over 2,300 in 1890, the population kept soaring; by the time JOSEPH arrived there were over 4,300 residents! JOSEPH met ANNA KUTARNYA in Forest City and they married there in 1905. The more than 6,000 of 1920 kept growing until the Great Depression hit. By the mid-1930s, mining had stopped completely, the population dwindled and the town closed down for over a decade. Their story continues in their own file.

- 6) JÁNOS SCHMID: born 6 June 1890. At the age of fifteen he headed to join his brother in America. He left the Kingdom of Hungary at the independent port city of Fiume, on 12 July 1905 and arrived in New York on the *S.S. Carpathia* on 30 July 1905. Fiume, synonymous with Rijeka, was much closer than Bremen at just over 350 miles from Hosszú-Láz. Now located in northern Croatia, Fiume competed with the Adriatic port city of Trieste in Austria.



JÁNOS boarded Cunard Line's *S.S. Carpathia* for the voyage; the ship would become famous in coming years for participated in the rescue of passengers from the *R.M.S. Titanic* disaster in 1912. Upon his arrival in this country, JOHN SMITH followed his older brother's path to Forest City, Pennsylvania with a stop in Neshanic Station where he lived with *Nenje* for

awhile. He arrived just two weeks before his older brother's marriage on 15 August 1905. The marriage announcement appearing in the *Forest City Press* relates that JOHN is *from New Jersey*.

By April 1910 JOHN had moved to Forest City, Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania and was living with his brother, JOSEPH. He married ANN MATURCHO. He filed a *Declaration of Intention* for naturalization on 20 May 1914 which gives the following information: he was a motorman, light complexion, gray eyes, 5'6", and 145 pounds and had light brown hair. He is living on Railroad Street in Forest City at this time. His *Petition for Naturalization*, dated 6 June 1916, lists his wife, ANNIE and daughter IRENE. At this time his occupation is a waiter. His *Oath of Allegiance* is dated 22 September 1916.⁹ On 4 November 1919 he was elected to the Forest City Borough Council.¹⁰ The 1920 census has him at 528 Higgins Alley, Forest City working as a machinist in a railroad shop.¹¹ His native tongue is given as *Magyar*.

He lived in Forest City all his life and attained a level of prominence in that community. He was a member of Lodge #30 of the National Slovak Society and served as its treasurer in 1933.¹² He was on the Recreation Board of the city for some time and at times was the Board's President.¹³ By 1930 he had built a business and residence at 609 Main Street in what is still known as the *Smith Building*.¹⁴ In 1930 it was a grocery store, by 1932 he had expanded:

JOHN SMITH *Phonographs, Records, Musical Instruments,
Confectionery and Cigars, Washing Machines,
Long Distance Moving Sedans for Hire, Forest City Taxi Service,
Phone 1153*

JOHN was the chairman for the *Silver Jubilee* of the Slovak Catholic Church of Saint Michael the Archangel (701 Delaware Street) on 29 September 1938. That same year finds him in business listings under both *Auto Services* and *Radios & Electronics* categories.¹⁵ He died in September 1962. JOHN and ANN are buried in *Sacred Heart Cemetery*.

- a) IRENE SMITH: born 6 February 1916 in Forest City.
- b) RUDOLPH SMITH: born May 1918
- c) DOROTHY SMITH: born c1921
- d) JOHN (JACKIE) SMITH: born c1924
 - i) JOHN SMITH: married MARGARET SPYHALSKI (great-granddaughter of JOSEPH and KATHRYN KUTARNIA), Vestal, NY
 - (1) MEG SMITH: born 1976
 - (2) KATIE SMITH: born 1984
- 8) ERZSÉBET SCHMID: born 28 August 1897. She moved with her mother and brother to Kis-Toroyna after her father died in 1905 and only completed 4 years of grade school. She emigrated to the United States in 1921 or 1922; became ELIZABETH SMITH and married MICHAEL SZABO in 1924 or 1925. MICHAEL was born in Hungary in 1890 and emigrated in 1912 to Trenton, New Jersey; his parents GEORGE, a watchman in a wire mill, and JENNIE SZABO, and sister HELEN lived at 833 South Clinton Street. In 1930 MICHAEL and ELIZABETH lived at 827 South Clinton Street in Trenton's 9th ward and they were still there 10 years later; during that decade JENNIE SZABO had died. MICHAEL was working in the wire mills at that time.¹⁶ ELIZABETH died 19 July 1966.
 - a) MICHAEL SZABO: born 1925; married DOROTHY ?, Trenton, New Jersey
 - i) MICHAEL SZABO
 - ii) DEBORAH SZABO
 - b) GEORGE SZABO: born 1929; married PATSY CONCANNON, Trenton, New Jersey
 - i) MARGARET ANN SZABO
- 9) BÁLINT SCHMID: born 16 December 1898; moved with his mother and sister to Kis-Toroyna after his father died. There they lived two houses away from the SZATHMARY family, where his future wife SUZIE lived. He had a 6th grade education when emigrated to the United States in 1923. His half-brother JOHN SMITH paid for his passage and BÁLINT lived with JOHN for approximately two years in Forest City. He then moved to Trenton, New Jersey where he

married SUZIE SZATHMARY circa 1927. SUZIE was born 18 February 1901 in Kis-Toronya, Zemplén megye, Hungary (now Malá-Tŕňa, Slovakia). At the age of four her parents left her in the care of relatives and moved to Trenton; it would be sixteen years before she saw them again. SUZIE moved to Trenton in 1921.

BÁLINT and SUZIE lived at 423 Chestnut Street in Trenton in 1930 and BÁLINT worked as a machinist in a “rope shop.”¹⁷ They were living at 423 Chestnut Street in 1940.¹⁸ BÁLINT died 6 December 1976. SUZIE lived in the Chestnut Street home until her later years when she moved in with her granddaughter JANICE MUSCHAL. She was in a nursing home after a fall left her bedridden. She died on 7 October 1999.

- a) JOHN SMITH: born August 1927; married EDNA ? 1950; lived in Lexington, Kentucky through 1995 at least. JOHN died February 2015.
 - i) RICHARD/JOHN SMITH: married 1964, lives in Kentucky.
 - ii) AILEEN SMITH: born 19 December 1959; married MARK OSTERHOUT 24 January 2010; lives in Fort Meyers, Florida. May have been married earlier as her daughters were born in the 1980s.
 - (1) RENEE HALUCHA.
 - (2) CHELSEA BENJAMIN
 - iii) DENISE SMITH: married ? COMBS in 1964.
 - (1) JENNIFER COMBS: born 20 September; married ? HARDWICK
 - (2) STEWART COMBS
 - (3) LAURA COMBS
- b) ELSIE SMITH: born 23 November 1928; married ROBERT MUSCHAL on 20 September 1952, Trenton.
 - i) JANICE MUSCHAL: married DAVID WINDSOR.
 - (1) AMY WINDSOR
- c) MARY SMITH: born 22 November 1929; married JERRY DEANGELO, Trenton.

- ¹ Hungarian Catholic Church Records, 1636 – 1895, FamilySearch.org.
- ² Hungarian Catholic Church records, 1636 – 1895; available online through Familysearch.org
- ³ Dr. Istvan Hogye, Zemplen Leveltara, Kossuth ter. 5, 3980 Satoraljaiújhely, Correspondence to author dated 11 Sept. 1995.
- ⁴ Suzie (Szathmary) Smith, Conversation with author, 13 June 1992; Trenton, NJ.
- ⁵ Photocopy of Baptismal Certificate of Jozsef Smid, dated 1919, in possession of author.
- ⁶ 1940 US Census: Mercer Co, NJ, Trenton, 11th Ward, block 45, 18 April 1940, ED 27-89, sheet 7A, dw 133, lines 24-30.
- ⁷ Index Card to Ship Passenger Lists Arriving New York 1901, Josef Smid, S5-15-340, and New York Immigration Passenger Lists, series T715, reel 208, Vol.339-340, 23 June 1901, Nat'l. Archives, p.171, No's.15-16.
- ⁸ 1930 US Census, Somerset County, Branchburg Township, 17 April 1930, ED 18-11, sheet 9B, dw 225, lines 56 – 58 and dw 229, lines 72 – 76; (*and*)
1940 US Census, Somerset County, Neshanic Station, Branchburg Township, 17 April 1940, ED 18-15, sheet 10B, dw 239, lines 70 – 74.
- ⁹ Declaration of Intention #7934 and Petition for Naturalization #6960 for John Smith; National Archives Branch, 9th & Market Sts., Rm. 1350, Philadelphia, Pa. 19107
- ¹⁰ John N. Obelenus. Highlights of Forest City Borough History. (*Forest City News*, 1938) p. 98.
- ¹¹ 1920 US Census: Susquehanna County, Pa; Town of Forest City; E.D.67, Sht.1B, #82-85.
- ¹² John Smith to J.A. Gallo, Pittsburgh, Pa; Correspondence dated 21 May 1932. In records of "Paid insurance claims of the National Slovak Society, claim #31517 for Katarina Kutarnia, located at University of Minnesota, Immigration History Research Center, 826 Berry St. St. Paul, MN. 55114-1076; copy in author's possession.
- ¹³ Diana Junior, Librarian, Forest City Library, 531 Main St., Forest City, Pa. 18421; Correspondence to author undated (ca. 15 August 1996).
- ¹⁴ 1930 US Census: Susquehanna County, PA; Forest City, ED 12, p 5A (*and*) 1940 US Census: Susquehanna County, PA; Forest City, ED 58-14, p 3A.
- ¹⁵ *supra*. Obelenus. Forest City Borough History. pp. 104 – 105.
- ¹⁶ 1930 US Census: Mercer County, NJ, City of Trenton, 9th Ward, Block 368; ED 40, Sht 10A, Lines 18 -21, page 184 (*and*)
1940 US Census: Mercer County, NJ, City of Trenton, ED 27-64, pp 7A & B.
- ¹⁷ 1930 US Census: Mercer County, NJ, City of Trenton, 11th Ward, Block 474, 28 April 1930; ED 50, Sht 8A, Lines 20-24, p. 113.
- ¹⁸ 1940 US Census: Mercer County, NJ, City of Trenton, ED 97-24, p 2A.